

working together toward a common goal? What you did here and the way you did it is a model for the way America must meet the other challenges we face.

We have a clear choice facing us in every single area of human endeavor. If you want everybody in your country to be able to have a good job and raise a strong family; if you believe everybody ought to be able to send their children to good schools; if you think everybody should enjoy the benefits of a clean environment; if you believe people ought to have safe streets and that they shouldn't have to worry about their children and their children's teachers being shot at the way the poor man in Los Angeles was wounded just a couple of days ago; if you believe that this country has to continue

to lead the world toward peace and freedom, then you must understand that every single challenge we have has to be met the way you met the challenge of the C-17. When we pull together, when we work together, when we have a clear mission, we never lose. You won for America, and America can win in the future.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:50 a.m. on the east ramp at Building 54. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Beverly O'Neill of Long Beach; Harry Stonecipher, chief executive officer, Don Kozlowski, president, C-17 program, and Betty Cavanagh, employee, McDonnell Douglas; and Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan.

Message to the Congress Reporting Budget Deferrals and Rescissions February 23, 1996

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, I herewith report three new deferrals and one revised deferral, totaling \$3.6 billion, and four rescission proposals of budgetary resources, totaling \$140 million.

These deferrals affect the International Security Assistance programs as well as programs of the Agency for International Development.

The rescission proposals affect the Department of Defense.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
February 23, 1996.

NOTE: The report detailing the deferrals and proposed rescissions was published in the *Federal Register* on March 15.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan in Santa Monica, California February 23, 1996

Trade Policy

Q. Mr. President, does it help or hurt matters if trade policy is a campaign issue this year?

The President. I think it should be an issue. I think it's important that the American people know all the facts and make their decisions. But let me reiterate what I said today, and let me begin by saying it's a great honor for me to welcome Prime Minister Hashimoto here to the United States. We know him well and respect and admire him for his work on trade

on behalf of his country. And now this is his first trip here as Prime Minister. This will be a good opportunity for us to get better acquainted before I go to Japan on my state visit in April.

Let me also say that we have a broad and deep friendship with Japan which encompasses far more than trade. We have a security partnership that has enabled us to work together to head off the North Korea nuclear threat, something which was an immediate threat to the